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CONSUMERS' COUNSEL

U·S·D·A

EGGS

CONSUMER TIPS > >

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT GRADES

(In operation as of February 1941)

U. S. Specials - the kind to buy for convalescents; very few on market; may be marked "Retail Grade AA."

U. S. Extras - top grade in most markets; satisfactory for breakfast eggs; may be marked "Retail Grade A."

U. S. Standards - satisfactory for general use; if sold under seals authorized by the Department of Agriculture must be marked "Retail Grade B."

U. S. Trades - suitable for preparing dishes where extra fine egg flavor isn't important.

(Grades based on quality standards)

(over)

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1. Storage eggs as well as fresh eggs can be graded. U. S. Specials and U. S. Extras, if storage eggs, must say so on labels. Not required on U. S. Standards. Storage eggs sold in interstate commerce cannot be sold as fresh.

2. Size - three top grades must be labeled as "large," "medium," or "small." U. S. Specials must be uniform; U. S. Extras, reasonably uniform; U. S. Standards may vary.

3. Date - must be on label of all graded eggs. Important because eggs drop in quality the older they get.

(From Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S.D.A.)
CONSUMERS' COUNSEL DIVISION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D. C. CT-21